

Sinclair Broadcast,  
which is a  
corporation owning  
television and radio  
licenses in numerous  
cities, recently  
proposed to air  
"documentaries"  
which were not, in  
fact, produced as  
news, but were  
rather programs with  
a decided political  
slant. The  
Commission has  
de-regulated much of  
broadcasting, in an  
attempt to increase  
the freedom and  
ability to produce  
local programming,  
reflecting the  
constituencies of a  
particular area.

Instead, we  
are seeing actions,  
like Sinclair's,  
which centralize  
programming and  
effectively shut out  
local voices from  
the publicly-owned  
airwaves. Sinclair  
is not, in fact,  
alone. In our very  
small ,very local  
market (Ithaca, NY),  
it is virtually  
impossible to even  
reach local stations  
by telephone, let  
alone get local  
voices on the air,  
except for widely  
recognized and  
inocuous causes.

I feel it  
is incumbent on the  
Commission to call  
to task entities  
like Sinclair, to  
make them responsive  
to local voices and  
opinions. While the  
old Fairness  
Doctrine seems a  
dead letter, we

still need to make  
broadcasters answer  
to the "public  
interest,  
convenience and  
necessity", and be  
not merely the  
owners in perpetuity  
of a publicly held  
and limited resource  
like the broadcast  
spectrum. Thank you  
for your attention  
to my comments.